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On the same day a boy on the vessel was taken ill and removed to hospital. The patient died September 16 and the case was positively diagnosed as one of plague. No further cases have been reported.

Russia.—In Russia 55 cases of plague with 41 deaths were reported in the Government of Astrakhan between July 4 and September 8, 1912. These cases were mainly in the villages of Zavetnoye, Rahinka, and Djanibek, which have been officially declared infected with plague. Fifteen physicians have been sent from St. Petersburg to assist in the control of the disease and 10 medical students have gone to study its epidemiology under Prof. Taranuchin. The disease is still present. During September plague was also present in the village of Dschambeitin in the province of Uralsk.

Azores.—At Terceira 8 cases of plague were officially reported from September 11 to 24. As is usual when a disease like plague first breaks out in a locality, it may be expected that there have been many other cases which have escaped recognition. There have been rumors in shipping circles that the disease has been more prevalent than is indicated by the notified cases.

Immigrants recently arriving at United States ports from the Azores have made reference to the presence of plague on the island of Fayal. No official report of its occurrence has, however, as yet been received. The only steamship lines plying regularly between the Azores and the United States are the White Star and Fabre Lines, which stop at the Azores en route from Mediterranean ports. The ships of the former line go to Boston, and of the latter to Providence and New York. Occasionally other lines stop at the Azores en route to the United States. American whaling ships may also go directly from the Azores to New England ports, and at times in the spring, fishing schooners from the Azores touch New England ports en route to the Newfoundland banks. The ships of the regular lines usually stop for only a few hours at ports in the Azores and do not go alongside of the wharves. Passengers and freight are taken to the ships from the shore in tenders.

CHOLERA.

Quarantine precautions at Dairen and Port Arthur.—Owing to the presence of cholera in certain Chinese ports the Chief of the Marine Bureau of the Kwantung Government issued a regulation during the latter part of August forbidding vessels from Hongkong, Amoy, Swatow, or Shanghai, and vessels touching at these ports, to unload fruits or vegetables at Dairen (Dalny) or Port Arthur until the fruits or vegetables were disinfected with a 1 to 1,000 solution of formalin. On September 2 a regulation was issued requiring the examination of the discharges of passengers and members of crews of all vessels arriving from Shanghai or via Shanghai before being allowed to land.

China.—In China cholera is spreading and the disease has appeared in a number of important ports, among which are Amoy, Hoihow, Nanking, Shanghai, and Swatow. At Shanghai the disease has also involved the foreign population, among whom seven cases were reported during the first week in September.

Japan.—As noted last week, cholera has invaded a number of localities in Japan, and recent reports indicate it is increasing to some extent.

Italy.—During the two weeks ended September 24, 11 cases of cholera were reported at Cagliari in Sardinia.

POLIOMYELITIS (INFANTILE PARALYSIS).

Buffalo.—The outbreak of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) at Buffalo is rapidly subsiding. During the week ended October 19 only 6 cases of the disease were reported and of these 2 had had their onset several weeks previously.

Alaska.—Passed Asst Surg Krulish has reported the presence of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) among the Eskimo of St. Michael and Unalakleet, Alaska. There were 5 cases with 1 death at St. Michael and 10 cases with 2 deaths at Unalakleet. The two villages are only 45 miles apart and there is much communication between them. The disease apparently appeared at Unalakleet a week or more before it did at St. Michael.

Poliomyelitis has been previously recorded in Alaska as follows: In 1908, at Sitka, 5 cases with 2 deaths. In 1910, at Douglas, 7 cases; at Chicagoff, 1 case; and at Yakutat, 1 case.

TRANSMISSION OF POLIOMYELITIS BY MEANS OF THE STABLE FLY (*STOMOXYS CALCITRANS*).

By JOHN F. ANDERSON, Director Hygienic Laboratory, and WADE H. FROST, Passed Assistant Surgeon, United States Public Health Service.

As a result of the thorough epidemiologic studies of poliomyelitis conducted by the Massachusetts State Board of Health from 1907 to 1912, under the direction of Dr. Mark W. Richardson, secretary of the board, evidence was collected which led the investigators to strongly suspect that the common stable fly (*Stomoxys calcitrans*) played an important part in the spread of this disease.

At the joint session of Sections I and V of the Fifteenth International Congress on Hygiene and Demography in Washington, September 26, 1912, Dr. Milton J. Rosenau, of the Harvard Medical School, who has been working in conjunction with the Massachusetts State Board of Health, announced the result of an experiment which seemed to confirm most strikingly the inferences drawn from the epidemiologic work above mentioned.

Dr. Rosenau stated that he had infected several monkeys with poliomyelitis by intracerebral inoculation, exposed them daily—from the time of inoculation till death—to the bites of several hundred *Stomoxys*, at the same time exposing 12 fresh monkeys to the bites of the same flies. At the time the announcement was made six of these 12 monkeys were reported as having developed symptoms characteristic of poliomyelitis, i. e., illness followed by more or less extensive paralysis. Of these 6 monkeys 2 had died, 3 were paralyzed at that time, and 1 recovered after a brief illness. In the cord of one of